

Good afternoon Chairman Sinrud, members of the committee. Fellow Montanan's I am Karen Sloan, a nurse practitioner from Havre Montana. I am the chairperson of the Montana Family Planning Council and the Director, Nurse Practitioner of Hill County Family Planning. The Montana Family Planning Council is made up of the directors of the Family Planning Programs in Montana.

As we are all aware the health care system in the nation, the state and our areas from which we come is a mess. We have many uninsured people and these are people who may work more than one job but still have no insurance coverage. In many communities our citizens are denied access to health care if they have no insurance and cannot pay up front for the visit to a provider. This is the basic reason I am asking you to support House Bill 638 which would provide the additional funding all of the family planning clinics in Montana need to continue to provide services in our 29 communities and in particular to advocate for the funding of the numerous small, rural clinics located throughout the state. As Chairperson of the Family Planning Council, I have some handouts to submit to you. Our fact sheet, which has our most current information, and letters submitted on behalf of my peers who could not join us today. Closing a healthcare clinic to come testify is not easy on short notice, so I am here to represent many of them and the thousands of clients we see in these clinics.

Montana's Title X clinics served 28,268 men and women in FY 2006. These patients received pap smears, vaginal infection checks, sexually transmitted infection checks. Breast exams, pregnancy tests, blood pressure checks, hematocrits and urinalysis, immunizations as well as contraception. They were referred for prenatal care, to the WIC program, to the Breast and Cervical Health program for follow-up on abnormal test results and in many clinics the family planning person is the advocate who helps clients

who are facing severe health problems and are not familiar with sources available such as mental health and adoption agencies.

Contraception is not a naughty word. Health care providers have long been aware that healthy babies and families happen when pregnancies are spaced appropriately and parents are mature and ready to accept the responsibility of parenting. Access to affordable contraceptive services is **IMPORTANT** to Montana Women. It improves pregnancy outcomes by reducing low birth weight babies, infant mortality and maternal health problems. It saves taxpayer dollars. Every dollar invested in family planning saves an average \$3 in Medicaid costs for pregnancy-related health care and for medical care of newborns. The majority of clients served by family planning programs in 2006(70%) were uninsured (no public or private health insurance.)

In many communities the physicians who are aware of the financial straits caused by poverty are referring their patients for this quality preventive care provided by the family planning clinics. The medical directors of these clinics are members of the community medical staff and most of them are doing it as a donation to the community's health.

In 2006 Pharmaceutical companies drastically raised the prices to publicly funded clinics. This translates to an 80% increase in costs for contraceptive supplies. Needless to say the Title X funds have not increased in the same manner. It is imperative that this cost not limits the health care and contraception options for low-income Montana citizens.

In Havre last year our clinic served clients from seven counties including Hill, Liberty, Blaine, Chouteau, Toole, Phillips and Valley. We have a satellite clinic in Malta, which provides services from our clinic to people who cannot come to Havre. Many clinics have established satellite clinics in very rural areas

that will be severely affected or closed without additional funding. Since the cost of contraceptives rose so dramatically last year I have had to change the number of options available for my clients and some of the most expensive methods, which may be the best for the client cannot be offered because there is no money available.

I spent several years of my nursing career as the supervisor of the OB ward and truly love babies but my heart ached for the infants and their parents who were unable to provide the very basics of food, shelter and clothing for the infant without even considering the nurturing environment needed to raise a child to adulthood. It is my purpose to provide preventive health care including contraception so that all babies will be wanted and nurtured and I would ask your help in this endeavor by approving House Bill 638!

Montana Statewide Family Planning Program



WHAT IS FAMILY PLANNING?

Montana's publicly funded family planning programs are an integral part of public health and primary prevention.

Family Planning:

❖ Improves...

- the health of men, women, and children

❖ Reduces...

- the need for abortions
- expenditures for high risk infant care

❖ Promotes...

- responsible behavior
- the well-being of families

❖ Allows...

- pregnancies to be wanted and planned when couple are best able to care for new children

WHAT DO FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS PROVIDE?

Family Planning services are voluntary and confidential:

Medical Services

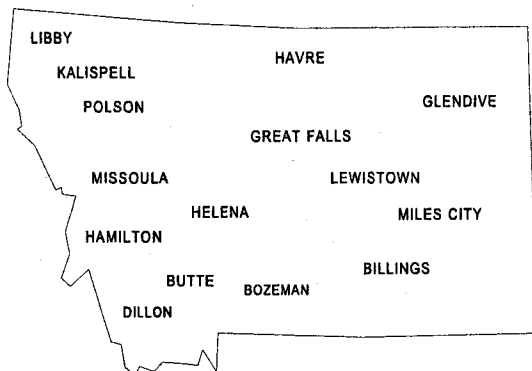
- male and female physical exams
- cervical cancer screening
- breast cancer screening
- STD testing and treatment
- anemia screening
- pregnancy testing & counseling
- male and female birth control
- male and female sterilization

Education and Counseling

- reproductive health
- breast/testicular exam
- birth control
- STD/HIV risks
- infertility
- Referral and linkages with community resources

- ❖ No one is refused services because of inability to pay.

WHERE ARE FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS LOCATED?



In Montana, there are 15 Title X Family Planning clinics (see map) offering services in 29 locations.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF FAMILY PLANNING?

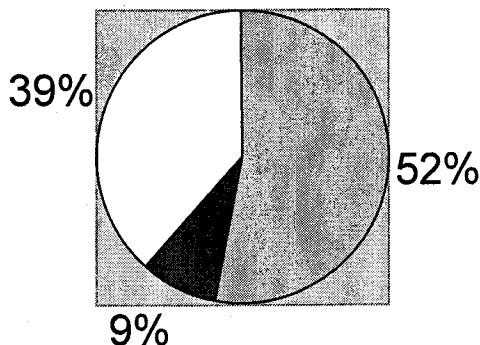
- ❖ IMPROVE AND MAINTAIN the emotional and physical health of men, women and children
- ❖ MEET THE NEEDS of those who otherwise cannot afford services and could eventually become dependent on government services. The annual cost for a mother and an unplanned child in Montana are:
 - \$7,575 - TANF and food stamps for a family of 2 (SFY 2006)
 - \$5,669 - Average Medicaid Delivery Costs (SFY 2004)
 - \$7,695 - Average Well-baby Costs for first year (SFY 2004)
- ❖ SAVE TAXPAYER DOLLARS. Every dollar invested in family planning saves an average of \$3 in Medicaid costs for pregnancy-related health care and for medical care of newborns.
- ❖ IMPROVE PREGNANCY OUTCOMES by reducing low birth weight babies, infant mortality and maternal health problems
- ❖ ASSIST COUPLES in having the number of children they desire so that every child is intended and loved.

WHAT IS THE NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING IN MONTANA?

- ❖ Of the 55,260 women in need of subsidized family planning services in Montana, 47% (26,164) did not receive Title X funded services in 2005.*

* Most current date. SOURCE: "Contraception Counts." The Alan Guttmacher Institute. Estimated number of women in need of contraceptive services in 2006, and the number of contraceptive clients served by public provider other than Title X, SFY 2005.

Montana Women in Need - SFY 2005



- Women served by Title X Clinics
- Women served by other public providers
- Women not receiving services

Montana Statewide Family Planning Program



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ❖ The majority of clients served by family planning programs (68%) in 2006 lived in families with incomes at or below 150% of the poverty level.
- ❖ The majority of clients served by family planning programs (70%) in 2006 were uninsured (no public or private health insurance) and/or insurance information was not obtained (i.e. minor receiving services).
- ❖ In 2006, medical and educational services were provided to women from 55 of Montana's 56 counties.
- ❖ The provision of family planning services throughout the state have contributed to the declining rate of births to Montana teens. From 1995 to 2005 the pregnancy rate for teens declined by almost 22%.
- ❖ Due to a statewide screening program for chlamydia, the percentage of family planning clients infected with chlamydia has decreased from 6.8% in 1987 to 2.4% in CY 2006.
- ❖ In 2006, statewide family planning programs prevented an estimated **18,718 unplanned pregnancies**.

Pregnancies prevented would have included:

- ❖ 414 infants with congenital abnormalities
- ❖ 414 infants with hypoxic brain damage
- ❖ 66 infants with chromosomal abnormalities
- ❖ 918 high-risk premature deliveries

Montana Statewide Family Planning Program



ACCOMPLISHMENTS – UNPLANNED PREGNANCIES PREVENTED SFY 2006

FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM	PREGNANCIES PREVENTED	BIRTHS PREVENTED	ABORTIONS PREVENTED	MISCARRIAGES PREVENTED
Billings	3269	2207	463	598
Bozeman	3920	2646	556	718
Butte	1258	849	179	230
Dillon	287	195	39	52
Glendive	504	341	72	92
Great Falls	1404	946	199	256
Hamilton	346	235	47	63
Havre	346	234	49	64
Helena	1307	883	185	238
Kalispell	2074	1399	294	378
Lewistown	322	218	44	58
Libby	307	207	44	56
Miles City	422	285	58	79
Missoula	2615	1765	371	478
Polson	337	230	47	62
STATEWIDE	18,718	12,640	2,647	3,422

SOURCE: Contraceptive Technology, 16th Revised Edition, Table 27-1, T. James Trussell.

Montana Statewide Family Planning Program



FAMILY PLANNING CLIENTS SERVED IN SFY 2006

<u>Title X Programs</u>	<u>Clients Served</u>	<u>Title X Programs</u>	<u>Clients Served</u>
Billings	5082	Helena	1945
Bozeman	5840	Kalispell	3259
Butte	2072	Lewistown	464
Dillon	407	Libby	448
Glendive	692	Miles City	556
Great Falls	2166	Missoula	3775
Hamilton	500	Polson	591
Havre	471		

TOTAL: 28,268

<u>County</u>	<u>Clients Served</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Clients Served</u>
Beaverhead	378	Missoula	3631
Big Horn	25	Musselshell	19
Blaine	33	Park	173
Broadwater	54	Petroleum	13
Carbon	78	Phillips	104
Carter	12	Pondera	39
Cascade	2015	Powder River	57
Chouteau	23	Powell	88
Custer	371	Prairie	12
Daniels	0	Ravalli	575
Dawson	157	Richland	206
Deer Lodge	486	Roosevelt	13
Fallon	94	Rosebud	25
Fergus	398	Sanders	119
Flathead	3033	Sheridan	3
Gallatin	5500	Silver Bow	1329
Garfield	7	Stillwater	32
Glacier	152	Sweetgrass	20
Golden Valley	8	Teton	45
Granite	18	Toole	10
Hill	313	Treasure	3
Jefferson	158	Valley	130
Judith Basin	35	Wheatland	31
Lake	510	Wibaux	12
Lewis and Clark	1792	Yellowstone	4856
Liberty	5		
Lincoln	443	Out-of-state	170
Madison	83		
McCone	7	Unknown	332
Meagher	14		
Mineral	19		

TOTAL: 28,268